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Pledge Bill Defeated in Judiciary Committee (Again) GOP Rep. Inglis Refuses to Change Vote in Major Blow to Republican Leadership

In a rare session called by the GOP to reconsider yesterday's action defeating their so-called "Pledge Protection Act," (H.R. 2389), Rep. Bob Inglis (R-SC) refused to change his vote and offer a motion to reconsider yesterday's defeat of the legislation.

Ranking Democrat John Conyers commented on the bill's defeat: "the GOP's so-called 'American Values Agenda,' highlighted and touted by Majority Leader Boehner just two days ago is off to a sputtering start in the House. The onus is now on the Republican Leadership to respect the will of the Committee. The truth is that this so-called 'values agenda' represents the politics of distraction and has nothing to do with the values of working Americans. American families value a living wage, health care reform, and relief from sky-rocketing gas prices, not election year political games."

This bill would impair religious liberty and abrogate separation of powers. Even some Republican Members complained about the bill's overreaching with Bob Inglis stating that its passage would leave a complainant with, "no access to a federal court to claim a federal constitutional right to free exercise."

Rep. Jerry Nadler, Ranking Member of the Constitution Subcommittee, added, "the Republicans' are disregarding the real priorities of the American people. Americans want real solutions to the pressing problems we face."

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